

Appln No. 10/616,639

Amdt date February 28, 2005

Reply to Office action of December 1, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-9, 11-13, and 19-20 are pending. Claims 4, 6-7, 11-13, and 19-20 are amended. Claims 1 and 18 are canceled.

Claims 11-13 and 18-20 are objected to because of informalities. In view of the amendments to the above claims suggested by the Examiner, it is respectfully requested that the above-mentioned objections be withdrawn.

Claim 6 would be allowed if re-written in independent form. Claim 6 is re-written in independent form including all of the limitation of its base claim 1. Therefore, allowance of claim 6 is respectfully requested.

Indicated allowability of claims 4, 12, and 20 are withdrawn. Claim 12 is rejected as being fully anticipated by Lee (US 6,633,116), and claims 1, 4, 7-9 and 20 are rejected as being obvious over Yoshinaga et al. (US 6,703,801) in view of Lee. Applicants submit that all of the claims currently pending in this application are patentably distinguishable over the cited references, and reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Amended independent claims 4, 12, and 20 include, among other limitations, wherein a "section of the inner surface has a shape of a segment of a circle and two pairs of substantially straight lines including a pair of vertical lines and a pair of horizontal lines."

Lee does not disclose the above recited limitation. The cited FIGs. 9B and 9C of Lee depict only two straight lines and not "two pairs of substantially straight lines including a pair of vertical lines and a pair of horizontal lines," and required

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by the amended independent claims 4, 12, and 20. As a result, independent claims 4, 12, and 20 are patentable over cited prior art.

Remaining dependent claims 7-9 are now dependent, directly or indirectly from allowed claim 2 and therefore include all the limitations of their base independent claim 2 and additional limitations therein. Accordingly, these claims are also allowable over the cited references, as being dependent from allowable independent claim 2 and for the additional limitations they include therein.

In view of the above amendments and following remarks, applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, therefore, reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By


Raymond R. Tabandeh
Reg. No. 43,945
626/795-9900

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